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EXAMINER

PARTON, KEVIN S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2153

DATE MAILED: 05/09/2003

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SK

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/723,349

Applicant(s)

BLOOMFIELD, MARK C.

Examiner

Kevin Parton

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 September 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4, 5, 8.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because:
 - a. It exceeds the maximum allowed number of words.
 - b. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as "The present invention comprises."

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States:

4. Claims 1, 2, 5, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2).
5. Regarding claim 1, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) discloses a system for communicating information, comprising the step of delivering facsimile information from a facsimile generating

device to a user supplied e-mail address in a computer readable image data format which is capable of being viewed on a computer screen, with means for:

- a. Entering the user e-mail address through a computing device (abstract; column 2, lines 23-26). Note that in the reference, each unique number has an associated e-mail user address so the entering of the number corresponds to entering the user address.
 - b. Delivering the facsimile information using facsimile protocol along a first communication network to a fax/to/e-mail gateway (column 3, lines 11-13). No that in the reference, the Local Area Network Server (LANS) is the gateway server.
 - c. Converting at the gateway the facsimile information into a computer readable image data file capable of being displayed on a computer screen (column 3, lines 23-30).
 - d. Creating at the gateway an e-mail message including an addressed e-mail header to which is attached the computer readable image data file (column 4, line 52 – column 5, line 6).
 - e. Delivering the e-mail message from the gateway through a global computer network to an electronic mailbox associated with the e-mail address (column 5, lines 1-6).
6. Regarding claim 2, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 1. He further teaches means for sending the user e-mail address to a fax interface

(abstract; column 2, lines 23-26). Note that in the reference, the user's particular access number corresponds to an e-mail address.

7. Regarding claim 5, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 1. He further teaches means for sending variable size user data to a fax interface (column 3, lines 23-30). Note that in the reference, there is no limit put on the size of data to be sent.

8. Regarding claim 11, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches a system, comprising a fax-to-email network including at least a sender side at which an image on paper is received by the network and a receiver side from which an email message is accessible to an email user, and a bifurcated interface at the sender side (figure 1; column 3, lines 10-30). Note that in the reference, there at least exists an interface for the entry of documents and an interface for the selection of a destination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 3, 4, 6-10, and 12-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) in view of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

11. Regarding claim 3, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) (as applied to claim 2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the sending step is accomplished through infrared signals.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2).

A person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) and Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) by employing the use of infrared signals for passing information. Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) disclose the use of a PDA in communication with a fax machine. Infrared communications are commonly known in relation to PDA communications and would be an obvious mode of communication for the fax/computer interface. This benefits the system by allowing users to communicate in close proximity to the fax machine without having to make a physical connection.

12. Regarding claim 4, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) (as applied to claim 2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the sending step is accomplished through radio signals.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the sending step is accomplished through radio signals (figure 2; column 2, lines 1-4).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of radio signals for transmission. Radio communications are

commonly known in relation to PDA communications and would be an obvious mode of communication for the fax/computer interface. This benefits the system by allowing users to communicate within a larger area away from the fax machine without having to make a physical connection.

13. Regarding claim 6, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches a system for communicating information found originally as an image on paper, comprising:

- a. A first communication network (figure 1).
- b. A facsimile device for generating facsimile information in a first format from information found originally as an image on paper, the facsimile device communicating with the first communication network along a first communication line (figure 1; column 2, lines 11-12).
- c. Interface means for receiving and communicating an alphanumeric address associated with an electronic mail address (abstract; column 2, lines 23-26).
Note that in the reference, each unique number has an associated e-mail user address so the entering of the number corresponds to entering the user address.
- d. A computer network (figure 1).
- e. A gateway server positioned between the first communication network and the computer network (figure 1, 'LANS' element).
- f. The gateway server being in communication with the first communication network and being in communication with the computer network and providing a communication link therebetween (figure 1).

- g. The gateway server selectively operating in a fax-to-data mode in which the gateway server receives facsimile information via the first communication network and communicates data representative of the facsimile information to a destination via the computer network (column 4, line 52 – column 5, line 6).
 - h. The gateway server being responsive to commands from the interface to initiate operation of fax-to-data mode (column 4, line 52 – column 5, line 6).
- Note that the server will convert and forward messages based on the original user input.

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose:

- a. An interface sharing the first communication line with the facsimile device and in communication with the computing device.
- b. The interface including means for sending information to the computing device.
- c. The interface including means for generating commands on the first communication line.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for communication between computing devices and a facsimile machine comprising:

- a. An interface sharing the first communication line with the facsimile device and in communication with the computing device (column 2, lines 1-2).
- b. The interface including means for sending information to the computing device (column 2, lines 1-2; column 1, lines 15-25). Note that in the reference, the computer both sends and receives signals.
- c. The interface including means for generating commands on the first communication line (column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of an external input from a computing device to a fax machine. This benefits the system by allowing portions of a fax to be generated on a computing device and for numbers and addresses to be automatically entered rather than the user having to remember and enter the number separately.

14. Regarding claim 7, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) and Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) (as applied to claim 6) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to specifically disclose:

- a. An infrared signal transmitter.
- b. An infrared signal receiver.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) and Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

A person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) and Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) by employing the use of infrared signals for passing information. Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) disclose the use of a PDA in communication with a fax machine. Infrared communications are commonly known in relation to PDA communications and would be an obvious mode of communication for the fax/computer interface. This benefits the system by allowing users to communicate in close proximity to the fax machine without having to make a physical connection.

15. Regarding claim 8, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) (as applied to claim 6) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose:

- a. A radio signal transmitter.
- b. A radio signal receiver.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications comprising:

- a. A radio signal transmitter (figure 2; column 2, lines 1-4).
- b. A radio signal receiver (figure 2; column 2, lines 1-4).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of radio signals for transmission. Radio communications are

commonly known in relation to PDA communications and would be an obvious mode of communication for the fax/computer interface. This benefits the system by allowing users to communicate within a larger area away from the fax machine without having to make a physical connection.

16. Regarding claim 9, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) and Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) (as applied to claim 6) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to specifically disclose:

- a. The means for receiving and communicating an alphanumeric address associated with an electronic mail address of the fax interface comprises an infrared signal receiver.
- b. The means for sending information of the fax interface comprises an infrared signal transmitter.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) and Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

A person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) and Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) by employing the use of infrared signals for passing information. Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) disclose the use of a PDA in communication with a fax machine. Infrared communications are commonly known in relation to PDA communications and would be an obvious mode of communication for the fax/computer interface. This benefits the system by allowing users to

communicate in close proximity to the fax machine without having to make a physical connection.

17. Regarding claim 10, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) (as applied to claim 6) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose:

- a. The means for receiving and communicating an alphanumeric address associated with an electronic mail address of the fax interface comprises a radio signal receiver.
- b. The means for sending information of the fax interface comprises a radio signal transmitter.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications comprising:

- a. The means for receiving and communicating an alphanumeric address associated with an electronic mail address of the fax interface comprises a radio signal receiver (figure 2; column 2, lines 1-4).
- b. The means for sending information of the fax interface comprises a radio signal transmitter (figure 2; column 2, lines 1-4).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of radio signals for transmission. Radio communications are

commonly known in relation to PDA communications and would be an obvious mode of communication for the fax/computer interface. This benefits the system by allowing users to communicate within a larger area away from the fax machine without having to make a physical connection.

18. Regarding claim 12, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 11. He further teaches the sender side including a fax function selectively generating a facsimile from an image on paper, and the bifurcated interface including a host portion, the host portion being connected to the fax function (figure 1; column 3, lines 10-30).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose a traveler portion selectively communicating with the host portion, the traveler portion being portable.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications including a traveler portion selectively communicating with a host portion, the traveler portion being portable (column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device. This benefits the system by

allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

19. Regarding claim 13, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) (as applied to claim 12) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose that the traveler portion is a specially programmed personal digital assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications including a traveler portion that is a specially programmed personal digital assistant (column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

20. Regarding claim 14, although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) (as applied to claim 13) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose the personal data assistant being programmed as a data entry tool having command communicating ability and a first communication protocol, and said host portion being programmed with a communication protocol compatible with said first communication protocol.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the personal data assistant being programmed as a data entry tool having command communicating ability and a first communication protocol, and said host portion being programmed with a communication protocol compatible with said first communication protocol (column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes. The communication protocols must be the same for the result to be achieved.

21. Regarding claim 15, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teach all the limitations as applied to claim 13. He further teaches a fax-to email communication system with input means for sending the address together with commands instructing the host portion to enter a selected fax delivery mode (figure 1; column 3, lines 11-30).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose the traveler portion being programmed to receive

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input of an email address and to communicate to the host portion, via infrared linking, the address.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications comprising a traveler portion being programmed to receive input of an email address and to communicate to the host portion, the address (column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the passing of address information from the PDA to the machine. This benefits the system by allowing the user to enter destination addresses without having to recall the address or numbers from memory and without making mistakes on keypad entry.

A person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) and Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) by employing the use of infrared signals for passing information. Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) disclose the use of a PDA in communication with a fax machine. Infrared communications are commonly known in relation to PDA communications and would be an obvious mode of communication for the fax/computer interface. This benefits the system by allowing users to communicate in close proximity to the fax machine without having to make a physical connection.

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22. Regarding claim 16, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches a facsimile communication system with means for transmitting an image, which begins as a hardcopy, from a fax enabled device to a destination address entered (figure 1; column 3, lines 11-30).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

23. Regarding claim 17, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 16. He further teaches means for:

- a. Conveying via a first protocol a received address to a host interface portion together with commands instructing the host interface portion of initiate facsimile delivery (figure 1; column 4, lines 4-7).

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- b. Establishing a connection between the host interface portion and a forwarding facility (column 3, lines 11-13).
- c. Conveying during the first communication session via a second protocol the received address from the host interface portion to the forwarding facility (column 3, lines 11-13).
- d. Conveying during the first communication session via a facsimile protocol an image from a fax function associated with the host interface portion of the forwarding facility (column 4, lines 4-12, 36-42).
- e. Delivering the image as an electronic file from the forwarding facility to the destination address received (column 4, line 52 – column 5, line 6).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the address is received by a personal data assistant and conveyed to the host device therefrom.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein an address is received by a personal data assistant and conveyed to the host device therefrom (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP

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0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

24. Regarding claim 18, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 16. He further teaches means wherein the transmitting step includes at least the step of delivering to an email address entered, an email message containing a faxed document as an attachment and containing custom text entered (column 5, lines 1-6). Note that any additional text could be entered at the fax device.

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

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25. Regarding claim 19, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 16. He further teaches means wherein the transmitting step includes at least the transmission of a document, which begins as a hardcopy, from a fax enabled device to a forwarding facility via facsimile protocol and the delivery of the document as an electronic file to an email address (column 4, line 4 - column 5, line 6).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

26. Regarding claim 20, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 16. He further teaches transmitting custom text and an email address to a server across a first communication network and during a single communication session on that first network,

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and the creation at the server of an email message containing the custom text, and transmission of the email message from the server to the email address (column 4, line 4 - column 5, line 6).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the originating device interfaces with a personal data assistant for address entry.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the originating device interfaces with a personal data assistant for address entry (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

27. Regarding claim 21, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 16. He further teaches means for:

- a. Entering destination addresses selected from the group consisting of email addresses and telephone numbers (column 4, lines 4-7).

- b. Placing hard copy documents into the scanner portion of a fax function (column 4, lines 4-7). The fax machine used requires scanning of documents.
- c. Communicating the destination addresses to a host interface portion (column 4, lines 4-21).
- d. Communicating the image data from the fax function to the address entered (column 4, line 52 – column 5, line 6).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

28. Regarding claim 22, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 21. He further teaches means wherein if the destination address is an address on a first

communication network, initiating a connection to the first communication network by the host interface portion dialing the phone dialing the destination address entered at the personal data assistant to open a communication line, and releasing the communication line for direct connection to the fax function (column 4, lines 4-21).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

29. Regarding claim 23, Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 21. He further teaches means wherein if the destination address is an address on a computer network, initiating a connection to a forwarding facility by the host interface portion dialing a pre-established address for accessing a server, to open a communication line between

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the host interface portion and the forwarding facility, and releasing the communication line for direct connection between the forwarding facility and the fax function (column 4, lines 4-42).

Although the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to disclose means wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant.

Nonetheless, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2), as evidenced by Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397).

In an analogous art, Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397) discloses a system for interaction with a fax machine and sending fax to email communications wherein the fax machine interfaces with a personal data assistant (figure 1; column 2, lines 1-2; column 4, lines 15-21).

Given the teaching of Grob et al. (USPN 6,101,397), a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pasonen (EP 0615377 A2) by employing the use of a portable input device, specifically the well-known personal digital assistant. This benefits the system by allowing the user to input addresses without having to look up and manually enter onto a keypad, thus decreasing mistakes.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Parton whose telephone number is (703)306-0543. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on (703)305-4792. The fax phone numbers for the

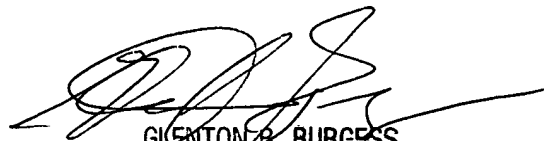
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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)746-9242 for regular communications and (703)746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

Kevin Parton
Examiner
Art Unit 2153

ksp
May 5, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glenton B. Burgess', is written over a horizontal line.

GLENTON B. BURGESS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100